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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/034,462	12/28/2001	Timothe Litt	1662-53200 JMH (P01-3853)	9349
23505	7590	03/08/2005	EXAMINER RAYMOND, EDWARD	
CONLEY ROSE, P.C. P. O. BOX 3267 HOUSTON, TX 77253-3267			ART UNIT 2857	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/034,462

Applicant(s)

LITT ET AL.

Examiner

Edward Raymond

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 January 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 16-35 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 January 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claim 1** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,611,901 to Micka et al. Micka et al. teach an integrated circuit fabricated on a chip (Claim 1: see col. 4, lines 3-20), comprising: an on-chip logic analyzer including timestamp logic (Claim 1: see col. 5, lines 30-35); an on-chip memory capable of storing data selected by said on-chip logic analyzer (Claim 1: see col. 4, lines 3-12); wherein the data stored by said on-chip memory is combined with a timestamp field representing the number of cycles since the previous store operation (Claim 1: see col. 5, lines 21-42).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

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were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. **Claim 2** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Micka et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,321,331 to Roy et al.

Micka et al. teaches all of the features of the claimed invention, except a system wherein the timestamp logic includes a timestamp counter that generates a timestamp count value signal indicating the number of clock cycles since the previous store operation. Roy et al. teach a timestamp counter (Claim 2: see col. 7, lines 11-20). It would have been obvious to the person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Micka et al. to use a timestamp counter, as taught by Roy et al., because this would allow for the processor to keep a running count of the data in memory to track the contents and/or capacity of the device under test with respect to a point in time (see Micka et al. col. 1, lines 13-21).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. **Claims 3-15** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. **Claims 16-35** are allowed.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Micka et al. teach a method, system, and program for maintaining electronic data as a point-in-time. The prior art of record does teach a system for storing timestamp information together with selected data, comprising wherein the timestamp value represents the number of clock cycles that have been counted by the timestamp counter since the previous entry was stored in said memory, and wherein the timestamp counter forces a store operation if the timestamp value reaches a predetermined value.

The prior art of record also does not teach a processor wherein the timestamp counter counts the number of clock cycles since the previous data storage, and generates a timestamp count value of n bits, which can be selectively stored with the data in the memory, and wherein the timestamp counter is capable of forcing storage of data when the timestamp count value reaches a predetermined value.

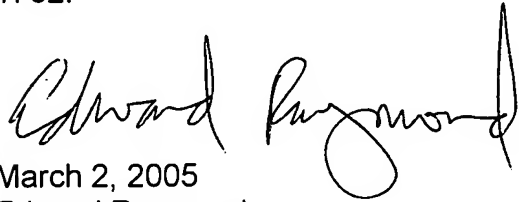
Contact Information

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward Raymond whose telephone number is 571-272-2221. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through alternating Friday between 8:00 AM and 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc Hoff can be reached on 571-272-2216. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-2221 for regular communications and 571-272-1562 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1782.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward Raymond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Edward" and the last name "Raymond" clearly distinguishable.

March 2, 2005
Edward Raymond
Patent Examiner
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